



Kent Children's Trust

Inspection of Children's Services – The future



Sally Morris
Head of Strategic Planning &
Review





Themes of the new framework

- Partnership working
- Monitoring on the basis of outcomes
- Consultation and involvement of children, young people and parent in decisions
- Targeted activity with the most vulnerable groups
- Evidence based activity e.g. needs assessment



Comprehensive Area Assessment

- Taking the Local Area Agreement (LAA) as its starting point
- Two main elements:
 - 1) Area Assessment
 - 2) Organisational Assessment



CAA continued

AREA ASSESSMENT

- Across all areas of activity e.g. health economic prospects, community safety how well public services delivering.
- Red flags for area of concern and green flags for outstanding performance
- Focus on the partnership working i.e. Kent partnership as a whole



CAA continued

ORGANISATIONAL ASSESSMENT

- Use of resources
- Managing performance
- Both element scored and combined to provide overall assessment:
 - 1 = Performing poorly
 - 2 = Performing adequately
 - 3 = Performing well
 - 4 = Performance excellent



CAA for children's services

- Self evaluation each year
- Annual Performance profile
 - outcomes of inspected services
 - ECM indicators from the national set
 - direction of travel statement based on benchmarked performance
 - feedback from other monitoring e.g. GOSE
 - other evidence e.g. processes, needs assessment
- Annual fieldwork on safeguarding
(3 yearly inspection of safeguarding/LAC)



Safeguarding/LAC

ANNUAL FIELDWORK

- Visiting a sample duty teams looking at threshold referrals and assessment
- No notice

3 YEARLY INSPECTION

- Self evaluation
- Involves case tracking, meeting with C&YP, IRO service
- Involving service managers
- 4 weeks notice



CAA for children's services

- This process will provide an annual performance rating for Children's Services against 5 ECM areas
- Poor performance in annual safeguarding fieldwork will trigger full inspection early